Organisations Working on Low Cost Rural Housing

470. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:
DR. SHRIKANT RAM-CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) which organisations are working in area of low cost rural housing in our country;

(b) whether the work done by these organisations is popular in rural areas and whether the Patterns of houses suggested by them are being used by the rural people; and

(c) if so, what is Government's latest strategy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA): (a) There are several organisations in the country such as Central Building Research Institute (CBRI), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (SCIR), Structural Engineering Research Centre (SERC), Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) and its Building Centres, Building Material and Technology Promotion Council (BMTPC) etc. are working in the field of low cost rural housing. Apart from these, several non-governmental organisations, Technical Institutions, Universities, Regional Research Laboratories are also engaged in the field of low cost rural housing.

(b) Yes, Sir. Several technologies, materials, methods, designs evolved by these organisations for construction of cost effective and durable houses are in use. The technologies such as brick panel system, RCC joint concrete tiles are being used for roofing and coil stabilised mud bricks/blocks, pre-cast stone block, compressed bamboo mat etc. are being used for walling.

(c) The Government has drawn-up an action plan to mitigate the rural housing shortage in the country by the year 2000 A.D. The technologies, materials etc. evolved by these organisations will be adopted in construction of cost effective and durable houses.

Improvement in the Standard of Living

471. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been allround development indifferent States during the years 1991—95; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the standard of living has increased to an appreciable extent in different States during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Some important parameters of development for which information is available for the reference period are not State Domestic Product, birth rate, death rate, infant mortality rate and expectation of life at birth. The statements showing net State Domestic Product of States from period 1990-91 to 1994-95, estimates of birth rates and death rates in States/UTs for 1991 and 1994, estimates of infant mortality rate for major States for 1991 and 1994 and projected values of the expectation of life at birth by sex for the periods 1986—91 and 1991—96 are annexed at Statement I to VI respectively (*See* below).

(b) The standard of living as measured from per capita net State Domestic Product at constant (1980-81) prices has increased in some States, and is constant or has declined in others, during the reference period. A statement in this regard is also provided at Statement VII.